From: chriscypher
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 1/23/02 7:27pm
Subject: Microsoft Settlement

Microsoft should be punished.

I am very concerned by the current settlement proposal. When someone is found guilty of a crime, justice is only done when the felon has been punished to the extent that they have seen the error of their ways and will no longer continue to be a threat to old or new victims.

Microsoft continues to admit no wrong doing. It is very unlikely that they will change their practices because what they have brought to the technology industry is not innovation, despite their claims, but ruthless appropriation of new technologies. They have used a myriad of illegal practices to enter niche markets. By leveraging their capital, their marketing propaganda abilities, and system software monopoly, Bill Gates' offering to the technology industry is more like Attila the Hun than Edison. Microsoft lays seige and destroys any would-be competitors through brute force. Until they are bound by some legal power, they will continue to act in this manner.

The current settlement does nothing to change Microsoft's behavior, in fact, as many industry analysts have attested, it will probably only extend their monopoly to new markets. This wrong must be corrected in such a way that competition in the industry is restored.

Thanks.

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